



DAVID R. CORDELL

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David is co-chair of the firm’s employment practice. He joined the firm upon his graduation from the University of Oklahoma College of Law in 1985. He practices in the area of litigation, with special emphasis on employment and energy law. He has represented clients ranging from individuals to multi-national corporations in state and federal trial courts, appellate courts, agency proceedings, and arbitrations and mediations throughout the central southwest. He has developed special expertise in the airline industry and in his practice he regularly represents airlines in many facets of their operations.

In addition to his private practice, he has served on various committees of local and state bar associations, including fee arbitration, ethics, American Inns of Court, and other bar activities. He has served as an Adjunct Settlement Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Oklahoma for 25 years.

Clients represented by Mr. Cordell include airlines, automobile dealerships, oil and gas companies, tobacco companies, banks, trusts, accountants, securities businesses, restaurant businesses, family and closely-held businesses, real estate developers, manufacturing concerns, and communications companies.

Honors & Recognitions

Listed in *The Best Lawyers in America*® (2009 - 2026)

2018 Labor Law - Management *Best Lawyers in America* “Lawyer of the Year” in Tulsa

PRACTICES

Alternative Dispute Resolution
Aviation
Energy
Labor and Employment Litigation

INDUSTRIES

Aviation and Airlines
Construction
Energy
Manufacturing & Distribution
Real Estate

EDUCATION

University of Oklahoma, J.D., 1985
Washington & Lee University, B.A., *cum laude*, 1982

ADMISSIONS

Oklahoma - 1985
U.S. District Court, Northern, Eastern, and

David R. Cordell

U.S. District Court, N.D. of Oklahoma Adjunct Settlement Judge since 1990

Oklahoma Law Review Note Editor 1985 and Member 1983 - 1985

Author of "Lender Liability for Securities Law Violations of its Borrowers," 39 Okla. Law Review 113

Western Districts of
Oklahoma

U.S. Court of Appeals,
Tenth Circuit

Community & Professional

Tulsa County Bar Association (Fee Arbitration and Professional Responsibility Committees)

Oklahoma Bar Association

Johnson-Sontag American Inns of Court

News

58 Conner & Winters Lawyers Recognized in 2026 Edition of *The Best Lawyers in America*[®]
08.29.2025

30th Edition of Best Lawyers[®] Recognizes 67 Attorneys from Conner & Winters
08.18.2023

Conner & Winters Attorneys Honored by Chambers USA 2021
05.26.2021

Peers Rank Conner & Winters Lawyers as the Best in their Field
09.16.2020

Conner & Winters Recognized for Supporting Tulsa Lawyers for Children
11.15.2019

Congratulations to the 59 lawyers from Conner & Winters who were recognized in The Best Lawyers in America[®] 2019.
08.15.2018

Conner & Winters Recognized by Chambers USA 2018
05.03.2018

David R. Cordell

10 Conner & Winters Attorneys Named "Lawyer of the Year" by Best Lawyers in America
09.11.2017

58 Conner & Winters Attorneys Named to 2018 Best Lawyers in America List
08.15.2017

CONNER & WINTERS HONORED BY CHAMBERS USA 2017
05.26.2017

Alerts & Publications

Employment Law Alert: OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard Requires Certain Employers To Mandate Vaccinations Or Testing Requirements
11.05.2021

Employment Law Alert: Practical Advice for Employers Considering Mandatory Vaccination Policies in the Workplace
08.11.2021

59 Conner & Winters Attorneys Recognized by Best Lawyers in America
08.16.2019

EMPLOYMENT LAW ALERT: Oklahoma State Question 788's Impact on Employers
06.28.2018